DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 322 603 EA 022 109

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TITLE Public Education: Who's In Charge?
REPORT NO ISBN-0-275-93402-0
PUB DATE 90
NOTE 205p.
AVAILABLE FROM Praeger Publishers, One Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010 ($37.95).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Information Analyses (070) -- Viewpoints (120)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Centralization; Educational History; Elementary Secondary Education; Excellence in Education; *Federal Government; Federal State Relationship; Government Role; Government School Relationship; High Risk Students; Policy Formation; Politics of Education; Public Education; *Public Policy; School Choice; *School Restructuring; Teacher Role

ABSTRACT

Difficulties in the formulation and implementation of a uniform national educational policy are analyzed in this book. A review of American educational history concludes that alternative policy processes must be considered if the nation is to develop public policies capable of addressing a national education crisis. Obstacles to a centralized educational policy are domination of the educational system by an established educational and academic community oriented to local control, and the evolution of a nonpublic, or "para-private," process that influences policy decisions. An alternative policy formation process is advocated that expands the role of the federal government in developing a national youth policy while maintaining the involvement of educational and other professionals, the local community, parents, and state governments. The table of contents is as follows: "A Nation at Risk"; "Federal Role in Perspective"; "A Para-Private Policy Process"; "A Generation at Risk"; "Reform Strategies and Policies"; "A National Public Policy Process"; and "A National Youth Policy." A selected bibliography and index are included. (LMI)

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